

## Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 01480 161103Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07  
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00  
DODE-00 NSC-05 NEA-10 IO-13 AF-08 /095 W  
-----162036Z 057009 /46  
R 161012Z MAR 77  
FM USMISSION NATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2221

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1480

FOR EUR/RPM

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, XF, XI  
SUBJECT: NATO EXPERTS REPORT ON THE MIDDLE  
EAST AND THE MAGHREB

REF: (A) USNATO A-117, MARCH 10, 1977; (B) USNATO 1406

1. WE HAVE TRANSMITTED BY REFAIR THE TEXT OF THE NATO  
EXPERT'S REPORT ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE HAGHREB  
(CM(77)14). THIS CABLE FORWARDS PROPOSED TALKING POINTS  
FOR THE AMBASSADOR'S USE WHEN THE REPORT IS REVIEWED BY  
THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL (NAC). THE REPORT HAS NOT  
YET BEEN PLACED ON THE NAC AGENDA BUT WE EXPECT IT TO  
BE CONSIDERED WITHIN THE NEXT THREE WEEKS. AT THE  
NOVEMBER 11 NAC, A S/SYG PANSO INDICATED THAT THE RE-  
PORTS ON THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND ON THE  
SITUATION IN AFRICA SOUTH OF THE SAHARA (USNATO 1330)  
PROBABLY WILL BE CONSIDERED AT THE SAME MEETING OF THE  
COUNCIL. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE THE  
DEPARTMENT'S COMMENTS ON THE SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS  
AND THE EXPERTS' REPORT.

2. BEGIN TEXT DRAFT TALKING POINTS:  
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NATO 01480 161103Z

--THIS REPORT REFLECTS THE GREAT DIVERSITY OF  
THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE MAGHREB AS WELL AS THE  
WIDE RANGE OF INTERESTS WHICH THE MEMBERS OF THE  
ALLIANCE HAVE IN THOSE IMPORTANT REGIONS. IT  
RIGHTLY EMPHASIZES THE PROBLEM AREAS WHERE WE ALL,  
TO ONE DEGREE OR ANOTHER, HAVE SOMETHING IMPORTANT  
AT STAKE.

-- A MEETING OF OUR EXPERTS WAS A  
PARTICULARLY APPROPRIATE PRELUDE TO OUR MARCH 11

COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF THE MIDDLE EAST. WE WELCOMED THE FACT THAT THE EXPERTS' REPORT COULD BE CIRCULATED PRIOR TO THAT MEETING: AND I KNOW THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON, FOR ONE, READ IT WITH INTEREST AND APPRECIATION.

--WE ARE ALL WELL AWARE THAT WE CONCE AGAIN FACE A CRITICAL PERIOD IN THE MIDDLE EAST AS WE ATTEMPT TO REVIVE THE PEACEMAKING PROCESS.

--AS MR. ATHERTON STATED ON MARCH 11, MY GOVERNMENT HAS MADE A STRONG AND CLEAR COMMITMENT TO WORK WITH ALL THE PARTIES TO MAKE PROGRESS THIS YEAR TOWARDS PEACE IN THE AREA.

--WE ARE FULLY AWARE OF THE REPORT'S CONCLUSION THAT THE CURRENT EVOLUTION OF EVENTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST CAN BEST BE VIEWED WITH "CAUTIOUS OPTIMISM", BUT WE WILL REMAIN MINDFUL OF THE SERIOUS RISKS POSED BY A FAILURE TO ACHIEVE SOME FORWARD MOVEMENT THIS YEAR.

--WE ARE ENCOURAGED THAT OUR EXPERTS HAVE CONCLUDED THAT "THE PROPOSECTS OF RESTORING MOMENTUM TO THE PEACEMAKING PROCESS APPEAR FAVORABLE".  
CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 NATO 01480 161103Z

WE ARE REALISTIC, HOWEVER. THE REPORT IDENTIFIES MANY OF THE SERIOUS OBSTACLES WHICH STAND IN THE WAY OF PROGRESS, AS MR. ATHERTON MADE CLEAR, WE WILL BE WORKING IN THE MONTHS AHEAD TO DO WHAT WE CAN TO HELP DEAL WITH THESE OBSTACLES.

--AS WE PROCEED WITH THIS ENDEAVOR, WE HOPE TO HAVE THE CONTINUED BENEFIT OF EXCHANGES OF VIEWS AMONG OUR GOVERNMENTS AT ALL LEVELS. THE WORK OF THE EXPERTS HERE AT NATO PLAYS A USEFUL ROLE IN THAT PROCESS. END TEXT.STRAUSZ-HUPE

CONFIDENTIAL

<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 30-Aug-1999 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 16-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977NATO01480  
**Document Source:** ADS  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** 11652 GDS  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** NATO  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t197703110/baaabcij.tel  
**Line Count:** 98  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE  
**Message ID:** 779b01b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** (A) USNATO A-117, MARCH 10, 1977; (B) USNATO 1406  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 06-Apr-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2962673  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NATO EXPERTS REPORT ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE MAGHREB  
**TAGS:** PFOR, NATO, XF, XI  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/779b01b0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009